



---

---

# MASONRY IN MANITOBA

www.grandlodge.mb.ca

Volume 61

November 2004

No. 3

---

---

## The Grand Master's Message

**B**rethren: I am writing this message from Fredericton on a sunny morning in late September. Since last June, Judy and I have driven literally from coast to coast and the beauty of our country is wonderful. There truly are no words which can adequately describe the fall colours in the Maritimes. The evergreens stand out in stark relief against a full spectrum of yellow, gold, copper, bronze, orange and scarlet. It is a beautiful peaceful time of year, a time to enjoy the bounty of the harvest, to bask in the soft warmth of the waning sun or to enjoy the heat of a fire in the cool evening under a harvest moon. The leaves have started to drift down to enrich and renew the soil, and for a while time seems to stand still. In many ways this time of year reminds us of the Master Mason Degree. It talks of old age, of enjoying the harvest and of preparing for the inevitable, which lies ahead. But by the time you read this we may well already be experiencing winter on the Prairies.

We are most fortunate to enjoy our country with its relative freedom from the extremes of nature. We should also be conscious of our relative freedom from political extremes as well. On November 11<sup>th</sup> we will pause to remember those whose sacrifices have made our democratic way of life possible. Whatever imperfections it may have we need not look very far to find those who live in fear for their very lives – who live in a political climate which they are powerless to change. Canada is known and respected around the world as a peacekeeper and a country quick to extend aid and compassion. Our peacekeepers and others, who serve in humanitarian roles, unfortunately do not always return to family and friends. So when you attend Remembrance Day

services remember those who fought and died. Also remember those who have served during times of peace, the peacekeepers who step into the breach to bring peace to a troubled country and those who bring aid and comfort in times of emergency. They all have and continue to contribute to making the world a safer place in which to live.

Isn't it ironic that the three major religions whose members kneel before a common God are today responsible for much of the conflict in the world today? Freemasonry shows a way to set aside religious differences and all other kinds as well, to treat every man as a brother and an equal and to work together for a common good. Let us ensure that those happy benefits of the Craft are seen and understood by society.

Despite a rocky start and some reluctance to participate, our Strategic Planning has begun. Following the last Board of General Purposes meeting we conducted a particularly interesting exercise. Separated into committees, we identified those conditions which constitute our Strengths, our Weaknesses, our Opportunities and any Threats which may be looming in the shadows. It was interesting to note that some groups thought that we were short of money and therefore limited in what we could do while others felt that our financial situation was one of our strengths. A full report will be forthcoming but I think we agreed that our 'image' was one of the areas that we need to concentrate on, both within and without the Craft. Our business meetings must be conducted efficiently with education being an integral part. Our ritual needs to be performed in a professional manner. Our work within the community must make a worthwhile contribution. Our facilities should

display a quiet, understated elegance with our traditions portrayed in a contemporary setting. We must all live up to our obligation to treat each other with respect and caring and ensure that charity does begin at home.

There is a part of our ritual which is pertinent; “For the heart may conceive and the head design in vain, if the hand be not prompt to execute the design.” However, so that these ideals may be translated into plans it is essential that they result in action at the grassroots level — that is the Lodges. We need some way not so much to encourage brethren to actively support these programs as to indicate that their actions do fit into the ‘big picture’, and are observed and appreciated. Neither a Past Master’s Jewel nor a 50 year medal are designed to reward the brother who, for his entire Masonic career, works tirelessly either in the spotlight or behind the scenes; serving as an officer, working on committees, taking the Craft’s programs to the community and leading a lifestyle that many will chose to emulate. True, many Lodges do recognize their members outstanding efforts but far too many work tirelessly and their efforts go unrewarded. I have

in mind a program to address this situation and you will hear more as it develops.

Many of our Lodges will be electing their officers this month for installation in December. If you have talents that will benefit the Craft I would urge you to make certain that you are considered for an officer position. If you are subsequently elected I would also urge you to attend to your duties conscientiously and prove to the brethren that their trust was not misplaced. It is now possible for Lodge officers to be installed in a ‘public’ format. If you are to be installed as the Worshipful Master of your Lodge and would like your family and friends present to witness this wonderful event you may apply for dispensation. The only requisite is to give assurance that the ceremony will be conducted in a professional manner. Practicing leadership in our fraternity may be likened to pushing on a rope, but we are seeing societal changes which will translate into a momentum. This time affords a unique opportunity to be able to in some small way affect our destiny.

Fraternally,  
Don

## **GRAND MASTER’S ITINERARY**

**November 2004**

9th Keystone No. 185

MMT

7:30 pm

OV

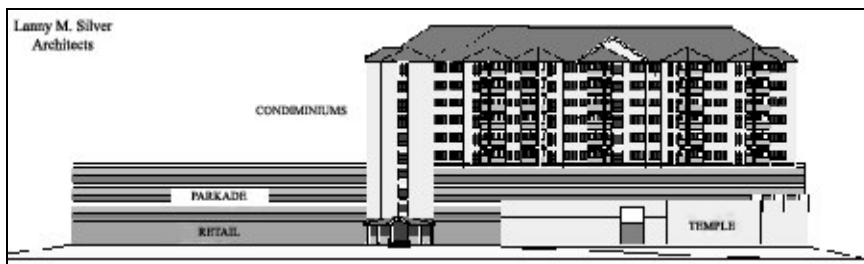
(For more information and updates to the Grand Master’s Itinerary, please browse the Grand Lodge website at [www.grandlodge.mb.ca](http://www.grandlodge.mb.ca).)

*Any Master Mason may accompany the Grand Master on his Official Visits*

### **Ain’t Technology Wonderful?**

On Wednesday evening, October 6th, 2004, a piece of Manitoba Masonic history was made by two of our brethren. R.W. Bro. Jake Mohns and R.W. Bro. Victor Popow conducted another one of their many informal Masonic chats. However, the nature of what they discussed isn’t the story here. The truly amazing thing is that they were over 900 miles apart - Bro. Popow in Winnipeg, and Bro. Mohns in Thompson! Despite this vast separation they were able to see and hear each other as if they were sitting across the living room. Using inexpensive hardware known as “webcams” (small video cameras connected to their computers) and the Internet, they able to accomplish this feat of technology with a hitch. Stay tuned, brethren. The times are definitely changing!

## The Future Look of Masonic Memorial Temple?



The appearance of Winnipeg's famous "Confusion Corner" may soon change. The Board of MMT is investigating the possibility of developing our building and property on that corner to include housing, retail space and parking. These additional facilities would surround and integrate with the existing MMT structure. The drawing above shows just one of the possibilities for this development. This view is what you would see as you approach "our" corner from the north on Osborne Street.

As with all Masonic issues, consensus is required before proceeding. The Board is seeking *your* ideas and input on this project. On the next page is a survey form that will give them an idea of the degree of interest from our membership. Please take a few moments to complete the form and return it as soon as possible.

---

### DeMOLAY NEWS UPDATE

Several Manitoba brethren have indicated their desire to be part of the Winnipeg Chapter of DeMolay. A one-day seminar will be held in November. At that time as well, an official registration for those advisors will take place. Those who have given us their names will be notified as to the time and location by letter in the couple of weeks. Any others interested may contact me at the address below.

The Winnipeg Chapter of DeMolay is now accepting informal applications for membership from any young man aged 12 to 21, with or without a Masonic family connection. Please submit their names, addresses, dates of birth, telephone number and email address, to the membership committee for the attention of:

A.B. Taylor, 38 Sunrise Cove, Winnipeg MB, R2G 4B2  
(204) 663-5155 email: vtaylor@merlin.mb.ca

A formal registration day will take place in December 2004.

### NOTE TO LODGE SECRETARIES

The Grand Secretary has requested that all secretaries who have an email address please forward that information to the Grand Lodge office. Please send an email message to [glsec@grandlodge.mb.ca](mailto:glsec@grandlodge.mb.ca). This will allow for more timely communication between the Grand Lodge and your lodge. Please send this information as soon as possible. Thank you!

**MASONRY IN MANITOBA** is published monthly except June, July, and August by authority of **The Grand Lodge of Manitoba A.F. & A.M.**, 420 Corydon Ave, Winnipeg, R3L 0N8 Tel (204) 453-7410 or 1-800-665-2712 (MB) Fax (204) 284-3527 e-mail [glsec@grandlodge.mb.ca](mailto:glsec@grandlodge.mb.ca).

**SUBMISSION DEADLINE:** Four weeks prior to the month of issue:  
(Oct. 31, 2004 for Dec. 2004 issue) M.W. Bro. Steve Kane - Editor Emeritus,  
M.W. Bro. Don Beattie (ex officio) Scott Howarth - Editor

**ARE YOU INTERESTED?**

The Masonic Memorial Temple is considering building a housing tower at 420 Corydon Ave. in Winnipeg. To help us plan, we would like some idea of how many people might be interested in living there. **PLEASE COMPLETE THIS SURVEY EVEN IF YOUR ANSWER IS NO**, and return it **WITHIN THE WEEK** to:

**Building Committee  
The Grand Lodge of Manitoba  
420 Corydon Ave.  
Winnipeg MB R3L 0N8**

Completing the survey does not commit you to any obligation. If we proceed, the residential units would have a river view and/or a City view. It would be within walking distance of the vibrant restaurant and boutique districts of Corydon Village and Osborne Village, as well as The Forks.

Please answer the questions below. THANK YOU!

1. Are you interested in moving to condo-type accommodations in two to three years?

Yes    No    Maybe

2. Would you live in a housing tower located in Winnipeg on land beside the Masonic Memorial Temple building?

Yes    No    Maybe

3. What size of unit would you want? (Following are anticipated, general sizes.)

1 Bedroom (up to 800 sq. ft.) for about \$120,000

2 Bedroom (up to 1100 sq. ft.) for about \$160,000

3 Bedroom (up to 1350 sq. ft.) for about \$190,000

4. Please list the three most important features you would like in the *unit*.

---

---

---

5. Please list the three most important features you would like in the *building*.

---

---

---

6. I would like more written information.

Yes    No

7. I would attend an information session to learn more.

Yes    No

8. Other Comments:

---

---

---

9. Your Name (please print):

---

---